

No. 5288 號八十八百二千五第 日九十月九年戌甲治同 HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 28TH OCTOBER, 1874. 三拜禮 號八十二月十英 港香 PRICE \$2½ PER MONTH.

第五千二百八十八號

日九十月九年戌甲治同

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 28TH OCTOBER, 1874

三拜禮

號八十二月十英 港香

[PRICE \$2½ PER MONTH.]

## Intiation

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 Also "Pracwaddy," 7th October, 1874.  
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## NOTICE.

**ALL PERSONS** having CLAIMS against the late Captain JOHN G. TAYLOR are requested to communicate with the undersigned, and all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment.

JOHN S. LAURIE,  
Administrator.  
1772 Hongkong, 27th October, 1874.

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DAVID SASSOON, SON & CO.  
134 1557 Hongkong, 23rd September, 1874.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, OCTOBER 28th, 1874.

THE protest which has been made by the Hon. Mr. RYAN with reference to the extraordinary action of the CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT of Police on the night of the typhoon, is a document of so much importance that it cannot be passed without comment; but, really, it is difficult to add anything to the plain and straightforward statement of facts which it contains. It appears to us to be a complete answer to all that has been urged in support of Captain DEANE's conduct. To again go over the grounds for the strong objections there are to all that he did on the night in question, would be to repeat to the public what has already been said; but, really, it is difficult to add anything to the plain and straightforward statement of facts which it contains. It appears to us to be a complete answer to all that has been urged in support of Captain DEANE's conduct.

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feeling. We are especially loath at the present moment to say anything which may appear unduly harsh with regard to the conduct of the Government in this Colony; but it is impossible, in view of one statement which Mr. DEANE makes in his defence, and which is accepted by the Executive, to refrain from expressing at least regret that both the Governor and the Colonial Secretary were at the Police instead of in the town when the typhoon occurred, notwithstanding that they had ample warning of its approach. The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT says the circumstances were such as to render all customary regulations nugatory. Mr. DEANE very justly points out that this is a most dangerous possibility to admit—and it is beyond the possibility of dispute that, in circumstances where such a plan as this can possibly be advanced, the Head of the Government ought to have been at a spot where he could be referred to—as most assuredly only the Governor can venture to do—so regulations which are especially framed for the guidance of Executive officers during times of difficulty, and even the Head of the Government himself would be very careful if he took so strong a measure that the circumstances were such as fully warranted such action.

The request to learn that the Telegraphic communication with Shanghai is again interrupted. The case of Lo Yau Ling, the charge-room interpreter convicted of aiding in harbouring a girl intended for prostitution, will be reheard this day at the magistracy, on account of a technical point.

We regret that through a mistake the *Terminus* ship *Thymara* has been reported in the list of vessels in port as being the *Terminus*. The error is corrected in today's issue.

The *Andromeda*, a 14-gun armed steamship, is intended for the Republic of China station, and is now at the wharf of the China station, and is now at the wharf of the China station, and is now at the wharf of the China station.

It is due to some oversight to state, with reference to the typhoon in yesterday's paper, that the *Andromeda* is not a steamship, but a sailing ship, and is now at the wharf of the China station, and is now at the wharf of the China station, and is now at the wharf of the China station.

On Monday night, at about 8 p.m., an attempt was made to commence getting the *Andromeda* out of the wharf. The water in the wharf was high, and the *Andromeda* was not able to get out, and the *Andromeda* was not able to get out, and the *Andromeda* was not able to get out.

The pamphlet which has just been issued under the title of *Hongkong as a Free Port*, is a very interesting and valuable work, and is a very interesting and valuable work, and is a very interesting and valuable work.

A letter from Ikuik to the Russian *Frederic* dated the 21st inst. has been received, and is a very interesting and valuable work, and is a very interesting and valuable work, and is a very interesting and valuable work.

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## PUBLIC PROSECUTORS.

(Zai Mall).

If we did not know from melancholy experience how long a time it takes to get a reform bill through the Royal Commission and its legislative realization, we should be disposed to expect the speedy removal of an anomaly from the administration of our criminal law. The bill and final report of the Judicial Commission, recommended the appointment of a public prosecutor, and the Lord Chief Justice, in a memorandum appended to the report, commended the recommendation.

The public of detail, however, in which the details from the scheme proposed by the Commission are so important that his approval may be taken as considerably qualified. One, indeed, of the objections which he rightly holds, we hold to be of an grave nature that unless effect be given to it in legislation, one half of the advantages promised by this most necessary reform will be a complete loss.

We do not refer to his objection to the distinction proposed to be made between the qualifications of local prosecutors in the town and country districts, though the bill also has an objection there. There is no good reason, and no reason even, except false economy, why any such different qualification should be fixed at all; and, in any case, there is the best reason of all—the world is a wide one, and the experience of the present system—why justices' clerks should not be retained as local prosecutors in country districts. The object of the Lord Chief Justice, in which we refer to, is of much greater gravity than this. In objecting to "leaving any doubt as to the power or duty of the public prosecutor to intervene from the earliest commencement of a criminal prosecution," the Lord Chief Justice unquestionably goes to the very root of the matter. The limitation of which he disapproves was the principal work point of Mr. Russell Gurney's bill, and a limitation which will seriously mar the usefulness of any measure in which it is allowed to remain. We do not know with certainty in what way the power of the public prosecutor to intervene is proposed to be restricted. In Mr. Russell Gurney's bill it was provided that the public prosecutor should have no power to intervene in the preliminary part of a case, and that he should only take up a case after the completion of a prisoner's trial, and by special authority of the Attorney-General. Whether this restriction is favoured in part or altogether by the Commission, or whether it is one of the other modes of restricting the initiative of the public prosecutor, is a matter of minor importance. The one point on which we think it important to insist is that the public prosecutor should begin from the earliest possible moment after a crime has been committed.

The mistake is incidental to the present administration of our criminal law, and the action of a public prosecutor in some cases would certainly and in others might possibly remove, are principally those—the escape of criminals owing to the absence of a public prosecutor, and the consequent delay in the trial of criminals, and the consequent delay in the trial of criminals, and the consequent delay in the trial of criminals.

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## DEATH OF M. GUIZOT.

(Daily News).

M. Guizot died on Saturday at his residence at the Rue de la Harpe, Paris, of the result of extreme old age. It had been evident for some time that his illness could have no other termination, and his family and friends gathered round him in expectation of the end. To him and his contemporaries, and to the present generation of Frenchmen he was already an historical name. M. Guizot, who had almost completed his eighty-seventh year, having been born on August 21st, 1788, was a Frenchman of the old school. His father, a distinguished advocate, perished on the scaffold in 1794, the same year in which his father's fall coincided with the fall of the Republic. M. Guizot was educated at the University of Paris, and was a member of the Académie des Sciences. He was a distinguished statesman, and his name was a household word in France. He was a member of the Académie des Sciences, and was a member of the Académie des Sciences.

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